

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 13-15 and 17-22 are now rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Forslow (US 2003/0039237 A1) in view of Schwartz et al. (US 6,697,354, newly cited). Claims 25 and 27-33 are now rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leung (US 6,501,746) in view of Joong (US 6,549,776) and Schwartz et al.. These rejections are respectfully disagreed with and are traversed below.

As was previously argued, Forslow discloses the use of a common access server 118 at a GGSN 116 (e.g., paragraph [0078]). In a common authentication procedure (FIG. 12), if a PDP context has been requested by the mobile station, created, and accepted by the GGSN, the mobile station starts a common dynamic host configuration procedure (interleaved with the common authentication procedure) to establish a logical relationship to the GGSN by sending a DHCP Discover message providing the mobile station's unique identifier (MSid), a user identifier (Userid), a password, and other parameters that may be used to identify and authenticate the mobile station (paragraph [0097]).

The GGSN stores the mobile station's MSid (based on the IMSI), Userid, and password and proceeds with a common host configuration procedure. At this point a common authentication procedure with an ISP is completed for both circuit-switched and packet-switched bearer services (paragraph [0098]).

If a new application flow is started by the mobile station, rather than performing another authentication procedure involving the external ISP, the MSid, Userid, and password received in a PAP/CHAP request from the mobile station are compared to values stored in the common access server during the initial authentication procedure. If the received values match those stored in the access server, an authentication confirmation is transmitted as a CHAP/PAP response through the direct access unit at the MSC to the mobile station. The common access server matches the provided information with the stored information and authenticates the mobile without having to undertake another authentication procedure with the radius server in the ISP.

This same type of abbreviated authentication procedure is performed for other, subsequent application flows commenced during the session. (Paragraph [0100]).

The Examiner again appears to be equating the common access server 118 of the GGSN 116 with the claimed subscriber database. While the Examiner's interpretation is not agreed with, the Examiner continues by equating the claimed "performing automated checking of a right of the terminal to use said subscriber database" with the disclosure in paragraphs [0100] and [0101].

As was previously argued, these paragraphs do not disclose the claimed subject matter. Even if one were to equate the claimed "subscriber database" with the mobile station information (MSid, Userid and password) stored by the GGSN in the common access server 118, which is not admitted is the case, there is no disclosure of "performing automated checking of a right of the terminal to use said subscriber database". Instead, what is disclosed (in paragraphs [0099] and [0100]) in part is simply that if one assumes that:

...a new application flow is started at the mobile station (e.g., an audio call from the mobile (party A) to a called party B) for which a circuit-switched bearer is selected....The direct access unit 112 then sends an authentication request to the common access server at the selected GGSN, shown in the FIG. 12 example in the form of a password authentication protocol (PAP) or challenge authentication protocol (CHAP) request, to forward the mobile station's authentication parameters including the MSid, Userid, and password to the common access server.... Rather than performing another authentication procedure involving the external ISP, the MSid, Userid, and password received in the PAP/CHAP request are compared to values stored in the common access server during the initial authentication procedure. **If the received values match those stored in the access server, an authentication confirmation is transmitted as a CHAP/PAP response through the direct access unit at the MSC to the mobile station. The common access server matches the provided information with the stored information and authenticates the mobile without having to undertake another authentication procedure with the radius server in the ISP.** This same type of abbreviated authentication procedure is performed for other, subsequent application flows commenced during the session.

Clearly, this procedure does not suggest "performing automated checking of a right of the terminal to use said subscriber database" (without admitting that the subscriber database is

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equivalent to the mobile station information stored at the common access server), but instead suggests (at the most) authenticating a right of the mobile station to initiate the new application flow (an audio call in the example given by Forslow).

Clearly, "performing automated checking of a right of the terminal to use said subscriber database" is not expressly or inherently described by Forslow, nor is it suggested by Forslow.

The Examiner correctly states that Forslow does not disclose "where an IP address of said subscriber database is received from the terminal at the serving network and a connection is established from the terminal to said subscriber database on the basis of the IP address of said subscriber database". However, the Examiner now cites Schwartz et al. for purportedly teaching this subject matter.


Schwartz et al. teach allowing the mobile devices to interact with Internet entities using a control engine in a link server and an interface engine in the mobile devices. It is submitted that the teachings of Schwartz et al. do not cure the deficiencies in the teachings of Forslow.

However, in an attempt to move the prosecution of this patent application to allowance claims 1-33 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer and replaced by newly added claims 34-71. These claims are supported throughout the specification and drawings as filed and no new matter is added. For example, reference can be made at least to the paragraphs 21, 25, 41, 45, 46, 50, 52, 59 and 60 of the corresponding published US Patent Application 2002/0116384 A1.

The claims as now presented for examination are clearly allowable over the references cited by the Examiner, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) and to allow all of the pending claims as presented for examination. An early notification of the allowability of all of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

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